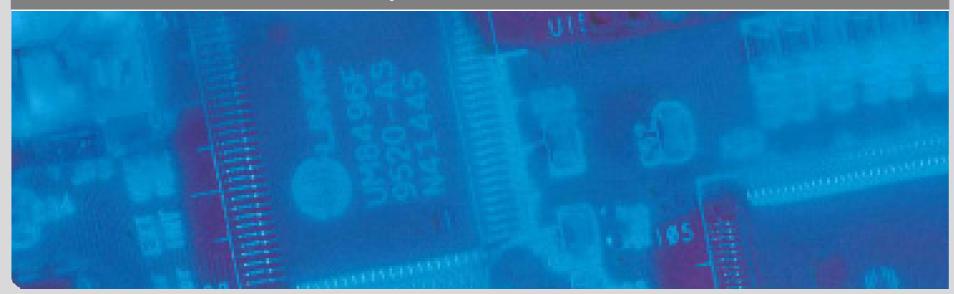




Reliability of On-Chip Systems - A Thermal Perspective -

by J. Henkel

CES – Chair for Embedded Systems



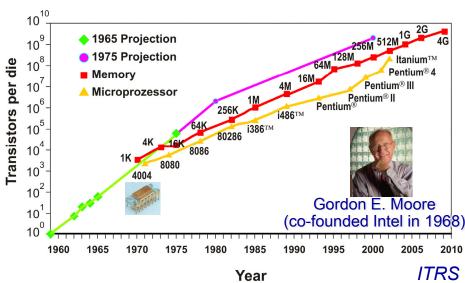
Outline

- Dependability Problems
- Dependability and Thermal Issues
- Counter Measures
- Thermal Management

Outline

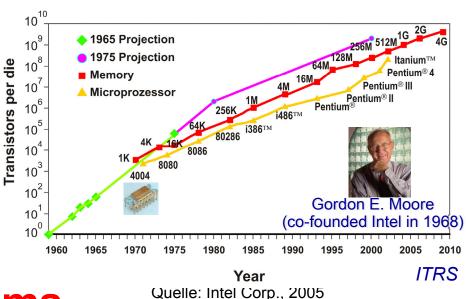
- Dependability Problems
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- Thermal Management

In the Past ...



- Moore's Law provided a win-win situation:
 - Smaller feature size
 - Higher integration density, more functionality
 - Lower power consumption
 - Higher speed (performance)
 - Less cost (per-transistor costs)
 - **.** . . .

In the Future ...

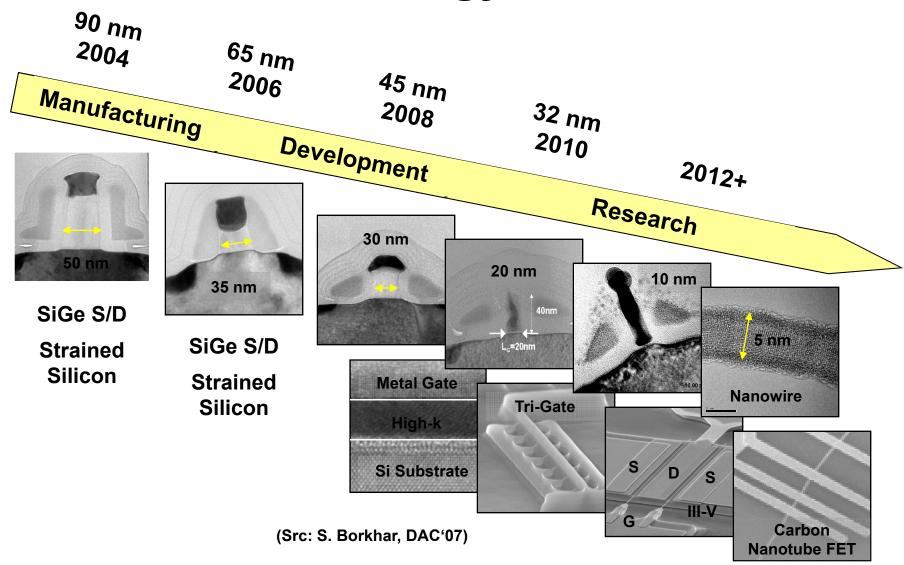


Problems

- ☐ Complexity: In 2017 100 Billion Transistors on chip
- □ Productivity gap
- Thermal problems
- Increasing relevance of aging effects
- Manufacturing defects, process varation
- ☐ Stochastic effects since physical limits are reached
- **Decreasing yield**

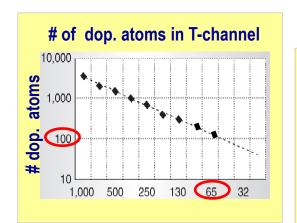


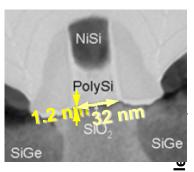
Technology Nodes

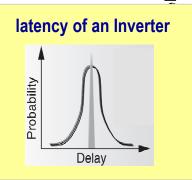


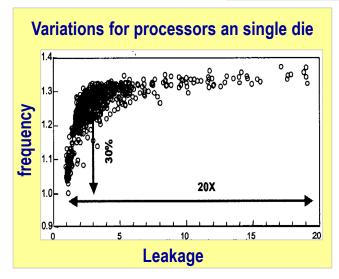
Variabilities

- Variability of transistor structures
 - Channel Length
 - Isolators thickness (gate oxid) gate <-> transistor channel
 - Randomized Dopant Fluctiations (RDF) -> Threshold voltage
 - => Decreasing mobility
 - => Increasing leakage
- Counter Measures
 - Strained Silicon Engineering
 - Strain channel to increase mobility
 - "High-K" materials for gate isolation (e.g. Hafnium)
 - May increase aging



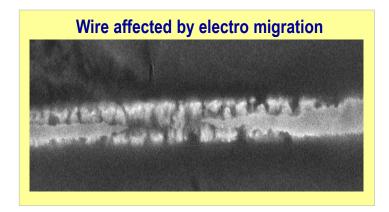


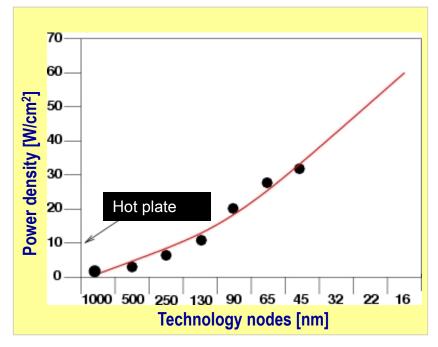




Aging Effects

- Elektromigration (EM)
- Stress Migration
- Time-dependent Dielectric Breakdown
- Dependent upon operating temperatur
- Through technology scaling
 - Increasing frequency
 - Increasing power dissipation per area, volume



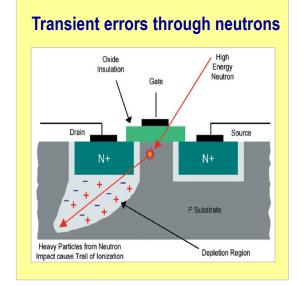


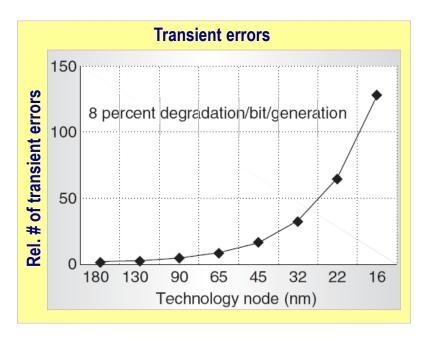
Increasing Susceptibility to Soft Errors

- lonizing rays may change charge concentration
 - (like He²⁺)
 - => may lead to bit flips
- α-rays
 - Radioactive decomposition of non-pure chip material

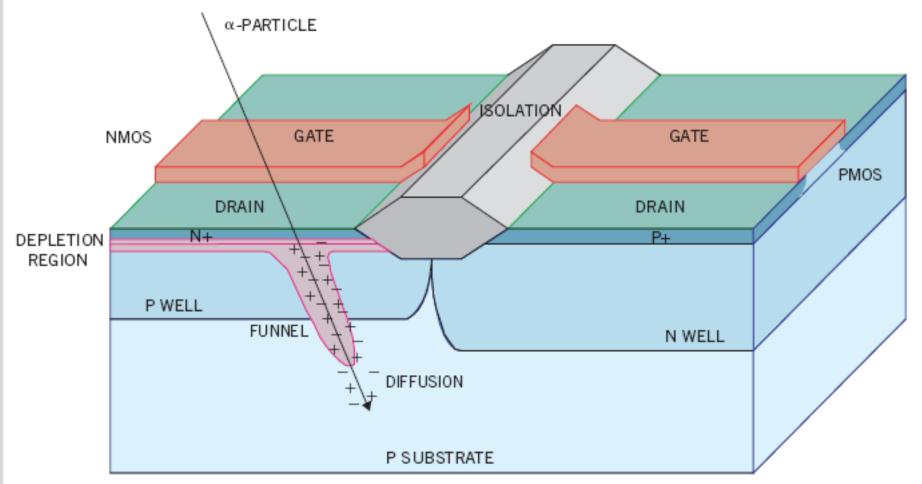
$$_{Z}^{A}X \rightarrow_{Z-2}^{A-4}Y + _{2}^{4}He$$

- Cosmic rays (particularly neutrons)
- accelerated through technolgy advancements
 - Low voltage and capacitances
 - Representation of bits through smaller and smaller charges





Particle strikes: causing soft errors



(Src: R. Mastipuram: Cypress Semiconductor @ EDN, Design Feature'04 Soft errors' impact on system reliability)

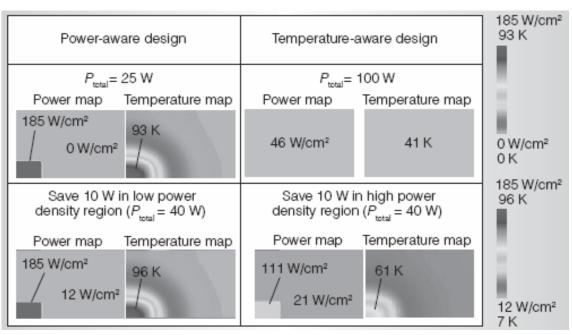
Outline

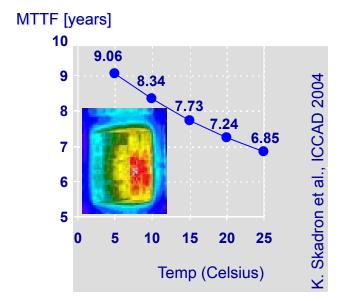
- Dependability Problems
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Heat Remains a Problem

"Circuit heat generation is the main limiting factor for scaling of device speed and switch circuit density"

By Jeff Welser, Director SRC Nanoelectronics Research Initiative, IBM, Opening Keynote Address ICCAD 2007





(Src: K. Skadron: Low-Power Design and Temperature Management;

IEEE Micro, Vol. 27, No. 6, 2007)

From Power to Temperature

- Heat is thermal energy [Joule]
- Heat transfer Q [Joule/s]
- Heat flux is heat transfer rate through given surface area
- Thermal capacity C:

$$C = \frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta T}$$

Temperature T reflects the amount of heat energy given a certain material

Specific heat capacity c

Material	c=C/dm ³
Silica	1.55
Cu	3.45
H ₂ 0	4.17
Air	0.0012

From Power to Temperature (cont'd)

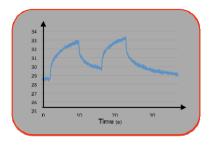
Basic temperature equation:

$$C\frac{dT}{dt} = -Q + P$$

$$T(t_1) = T_0 + \frac{1}{C} \int_{t_0}^{t_1} -Q(t) + P(t)dt$$

where Q is the heat dissipation rate.

$$T(t) = T_0 - (T_{SS} - T_0)e^{-\frac{t}{h}}$$
 Heating
$$T(t) = T_0 + (T_0 - T_A)e^{-\frac{t}{c}}$$
 Cooling



$$T(t) = T_0 + (T_0 - T_A)e^{-\frac{t}{c}}$$
Cooling

- \blacksquare T_{SS} is the steady state temperature the system will asymptotically reach with current power configuration
- \blacksquare Ambient temperature T_{A} is minimum reachable temperature

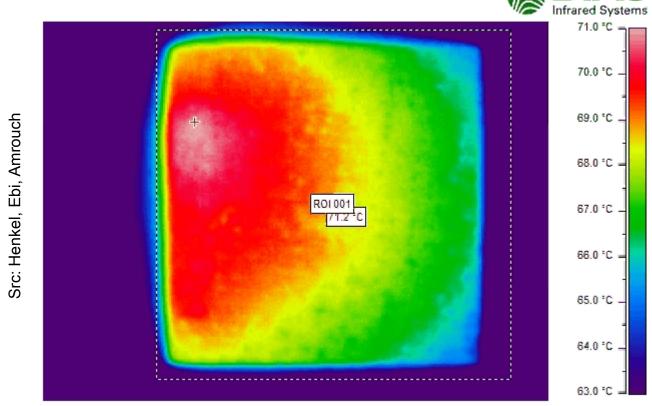
Thermal Distribution and Dynamics

Example showing localized computation switching between two areas on the chip

32,0 °C 31,0 °C Src: Henkel, Ebi, Amrouch 30,0 °C 29,0 °C

Thermal Distribution and Dynamics (cont'd)

Eample: Xilinx Virtex 5 running a web server application

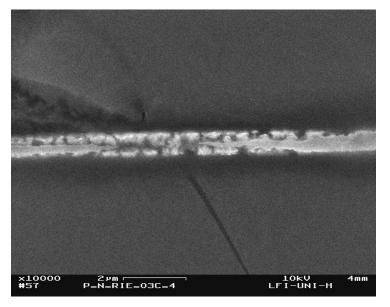


From Temperature to Reliability

- For instance: Electromigration:
- directly linked to temperature
 - Basic Mean time to failure modeled by Black's Equation:

$$MTTF = Aj^{-n}e^{\left(\frac{Q}{kT}\right)}$$

MTTF decreases exponentially with temperature

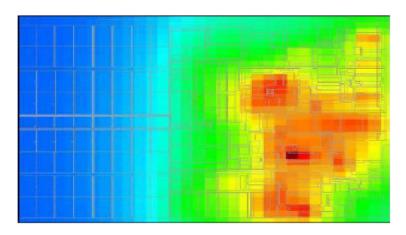


[wikipedia]

→ Goal: reduce peak temperatures

From Temperature to Reliability

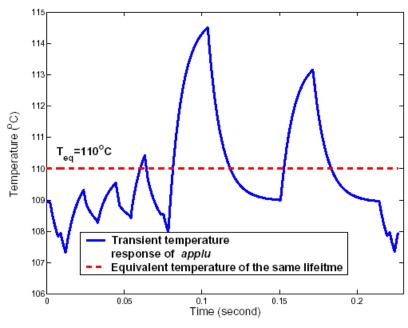
MTTF also affected by thermal gradients



Spatial gradients
Simulated Thermal map Pentium M

[L.Finkelstein, Intel 2005]

■ → Goal: balance temperatures



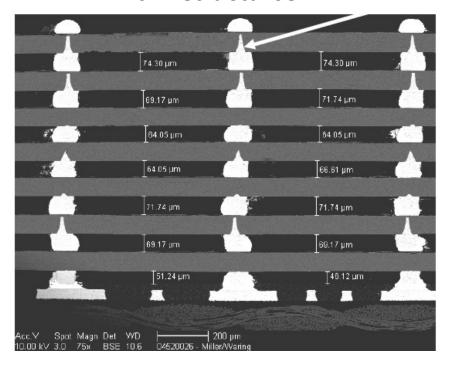
Temporal gradients

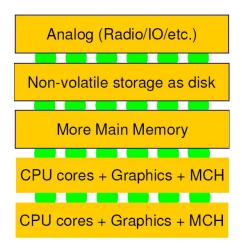
[K. Skadron, 2005]

Thermal/Heat Problems in 3D

3-D chips especially problematic

3-D structures

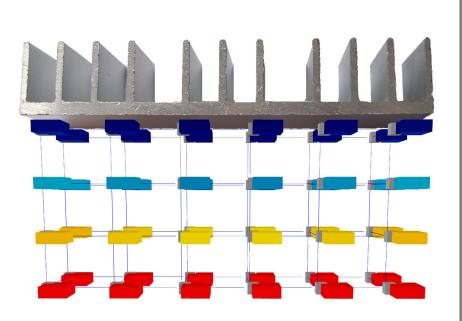




(Src: Y. Xie, PennState)

Thermal/Heat Problems in 3D Architectures

- Problem: vertical heat flow
 - Only one layer directly interfaces with the heat sink
 - Heat needs to dissipate through multiple layers



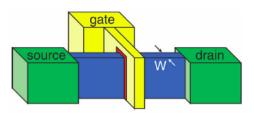
- The heat sink is located on top of the chip
- Hot cores distant to the heat sink dissipate their heat through other layers
- Silicon has a low thermal conductivity!
 - 150 W/(m*K) (Silicon)
 - 401 W/(m*K) (Copper)

Outline

- Dependability Problems
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- Counter Measures
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Counter Measures at Device Level

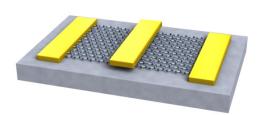
FinFET-Transistor



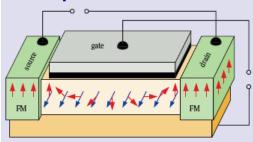
Idea: reduce channel thickness

But: reduced mobility

Graphene-Transistor



Spin-Transistor

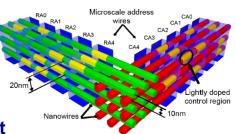


Injection of spin-polarized electrons at source V-gate affects spin trace electron current only when electron spin parallen to drain-spin

Idea:low power dissipation

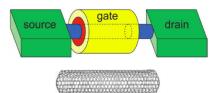
But: hard to control => high error rates

NanoPLA block and 3D Interconnect



Source: DeHon

CNFET-Transistor

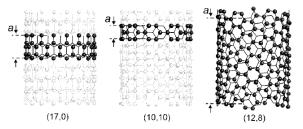


Idea: combine high mobility and

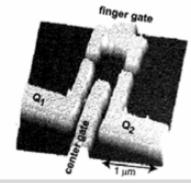
thin channel width

But: problems in placement and

structural growth

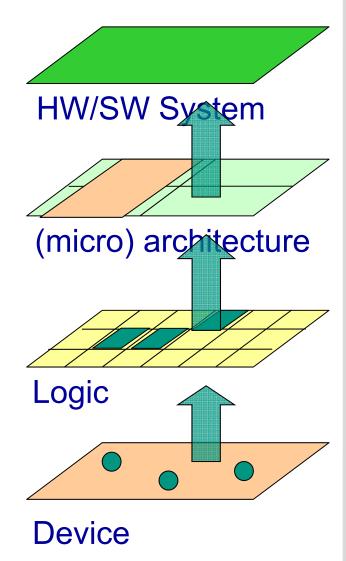


Single-Electron Transistor



A Spectrum of Solutions

Near	and medium term solutions:
	Massively parallel, modularity (cells, blocks)
	Regularity (grid processing, cellular arrays)
	Locally connected (near-neighbor connections, crossbar)
	Higher functionality (multiple valued logic, threshold logic)
	Adaptivity through Reconfigurability
ā	Asynchronous (including GALS)
ā	Fault-tolerance (noise immune,, redundant, self-testing, self-correcting)
	Defect-tolerant (reconfigurable)
	Redundant, adaptive (self-adaptive, self- organizing, evolvable)
	Bio-inspired, autonomous computing etc.
	Nanophotonic (optical communication, GOLE)
	Probabilistic (algorithms, encoding, communication)
Long	term solutions:
	molecular, quantum
	quantum-dot cellular automata
	Adiabatic / reversible
	•••
	(Src: M. Huebner, KIT)



Idea: use Principles of Bio-inspired/Autonomous Computing

- Organic Computer Systems
 - will possess lifelike properties.
 - will consist of autonomic and cooperating sub systems and will work, as much as possible, in a self-organized way.
 - will adapt to user needs,
 - will be controlled by objectives ("goal-driven"),
- Self-organization allows for adaptive and context aware behavior:
- Self-X
 - self-configuring
 - self-optimizing, self-adapting
 - self-healing
 - self-protecting
 - **..**.



=> Beneficial for reliability

(Src: H. Schmeck, KIT)

Self-Organization

- Under appropriate conditions the collaboration of simple agents may produce highly complex, adaptive systems
- No necessity for central control
- Examples: (Src: H. Schmeck, Uni Karlsruhe)
 - Termite / Ant colonies
 - Swarms of bees
 - Economy
 - Traffic
 - Internet
- Idea: Complexity management by self-organization
- But: Who is managing/controlling self-organisation?



Emergent Phenomena

Local interaction may lead to entirely new global properties.

"The whole is more than the sum of its parts!"

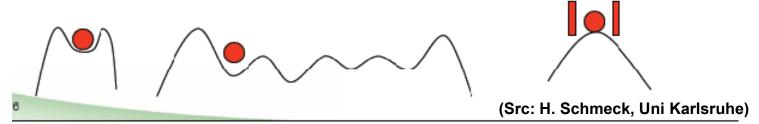
- Emergent effects may be desired or undesired
 - How can we generate positive emergence?
 - How can we prevent negative emergence?
- Examples:
 - "green wave" at traffic lights
 - deadlock / lifelock
 - ant roads
- Can we use emergent Phenomena for computing systems?



(Src: H. Schmeck, Uni Karlsruhe)

Challenges in Bioinspired/Autonomous Computing

- Provide systems with sufficiently large degrees of freedom for adapting to different requirements.
- Systems have to be aware of
 - what type of service they can provide,
 - what type of service they need from others,
 - what the current environment wants to get done.
- Systems should have a "desire" to be active (□□incentives?).
- Systems should be robust with respect to external changes
- Systems should react flexibly to changing external constraints
- There will be a need for "controlled self-organization".



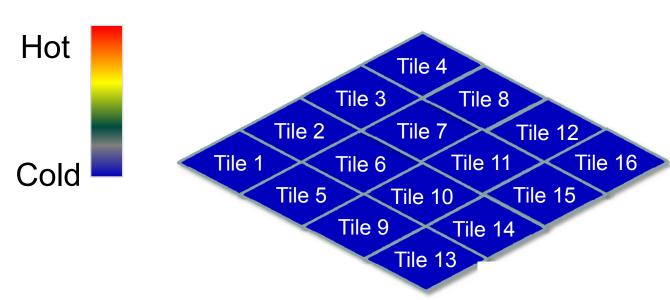
Bio-inspired/Autonomous Computing

- Self-organizing computing systems are becoming a key topic for academic and industrial research.
- So, what do we need?
 - Nature inspired methods, Artificial Life:
 - Evolutionary Algorithms, Ant Colony Optimization, Swarm intelligence
 - Multi-Agent systems
 - Cognitive systems
 - Learning
 - Observer/Controller-Architectures
 - Results from control theory (model predictive control??)
 - Reconfigurable computing systems (Src: H. Schmeck, Uni Karlsruhe)
 - ...
- Organic/Autonomous Computing may help to build more reliable systems!

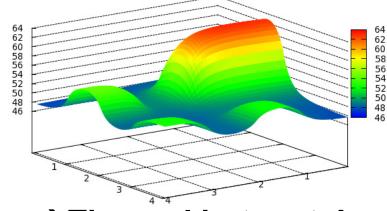
Outline

- Dependability Problems
- Dependability and Thermal Issues
- Counter Measures
- Thermal Management
 - Using principles of self-organization:
 - Scalability
 - Proactivity
 - No single point of failure

Motivation



Spreading tasks throughout the chip reduces thermal hotspots



→Thermal hotspots!

Motivation

Open Problem

Thermal hotspots in multi/many-core architectures

Possible Solution: Dynamic Thermal Management (DTM)

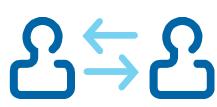
- Design-time techniques may not predict the behavior a priori
- Runtime application mapping algorithm may be used to homogeneous thermal distribution

What Properties are Required?

- Scalability
- Proactive behavior
- Light-weight in terms of hardware/software

Idea: use Agent-Based System

"An agent is anything that can be viewed as perceiving its environment through sensors and acting upon that environment through effectors"



[Russell & Norvig, Artificial Intelligence: A modern Appraoch]

- Desired properties of agent
 - Situated ←→ Software/hardware entity in each tile
 - Scalable ←→ Agents act locally
 - Proactive ← → Triggered before threshold is reached
 - Social ←→ May negotiate with their neighbors
 - Reactive ←→ React to outside stimuli (i.e. to thermal sensors)
 - Light-weight ← → Require small memory/computation footprint

Approach

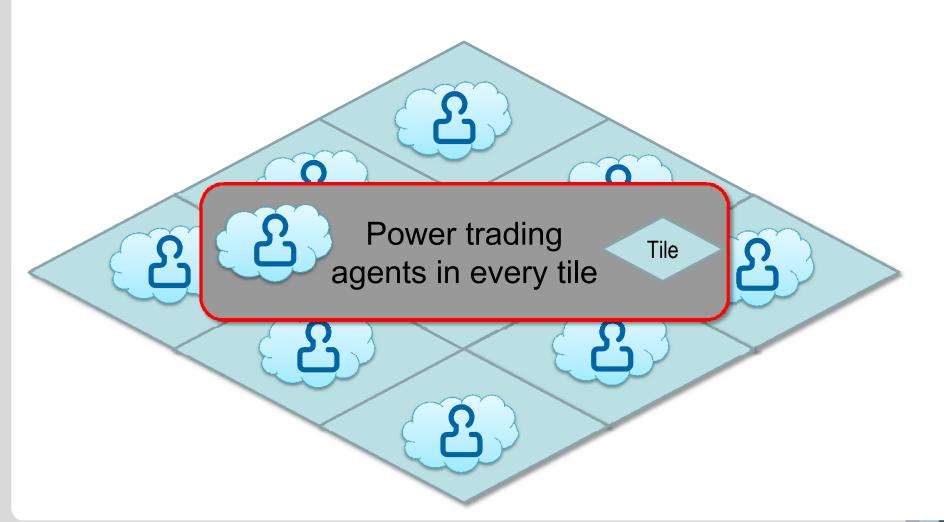
- Economic policy to achieve proactive behavior
- Distributed approach for mapping using agents

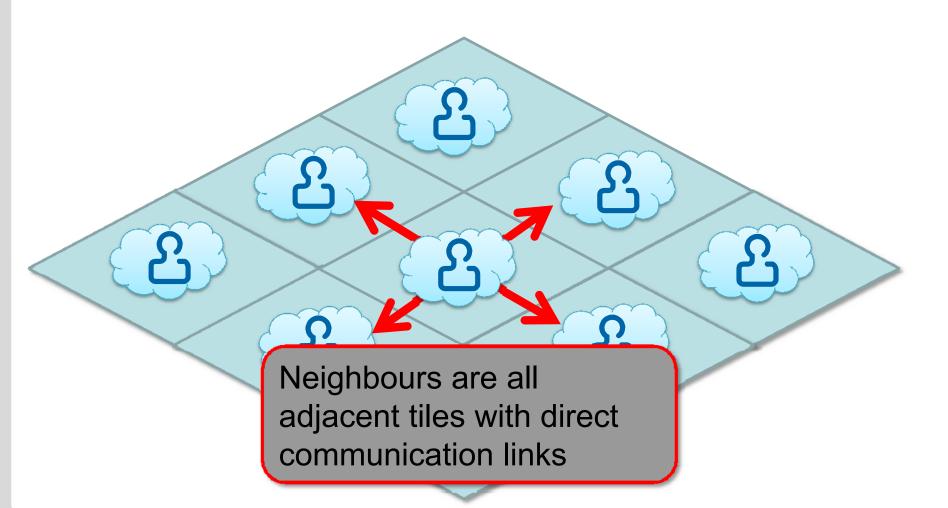
Power Trading Agents

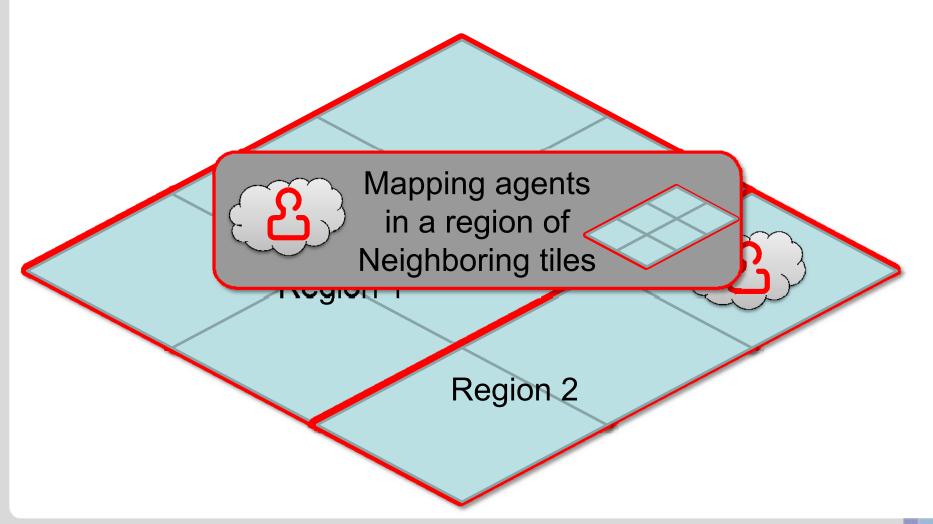
- Economic policy (supply/demand) to achieve proactive behavior
- HW/SW implementation
- Situated in each tile

Mapping Agents

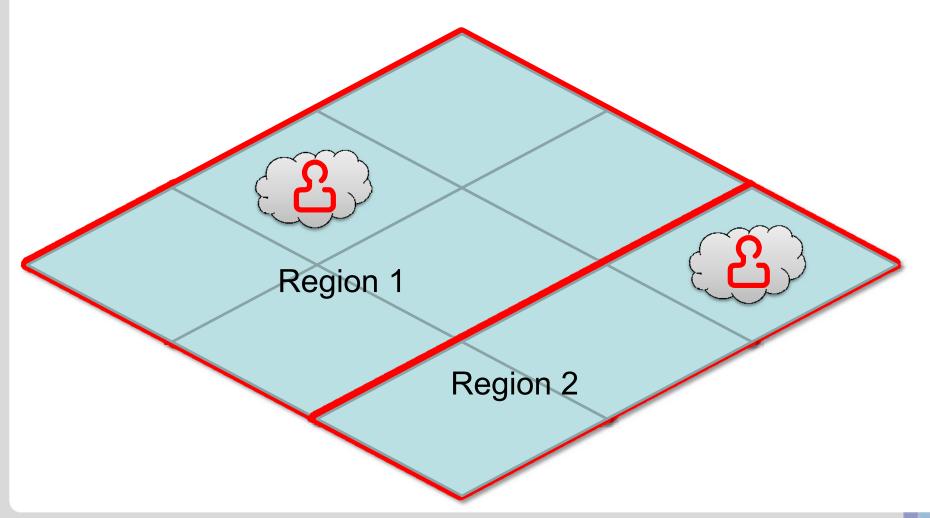
- Distributed approach for mapping using agents
- SW implementation
- Responsible for a region of neighboring tiles
- Can be migrated







Agent-Based System



Trading Units





Number of power units

→ frequency f, voltage V tasks can be run

Units traded between agents are power units

Used power units:
 used to run tasks => refers to a
 certain voltage/frequency setting

Free power units: can be freely traded among agents

Assumptions, Parameters

Tasks have fixed deadline
A worst case of the execution time (WCET)
is known

→ Minimum frequency is set for a tile
 → This results in the number of 'used' power units

Task migration is system dependent (measured around 100K cycles (saving, transferring, loading task context)

Buy and sell incentives express an agent's "desire" to acquire/give up power units => based on "supply/demand" like in an economy

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- Incentive to Sell: $sell = w_{u,s} \cdot used + w_{f,s} \cdot free$
- Incentive to Buy: $buy = w_{u,b} \cdot used w_{f,b} \cdot free + \gamma$

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- Incentive to Sell: $sell = w_{u,s} \cdot used + w_{f,s} \cdot free$
- Incentive

Weights and γ are dependant on processor type, total amount of power units, and number of tiles

free +γ

Logically: used units => demand free units => supply

- Buy and sell incentives express an agent's "desire" to acquire/give up power units => based on "supply/demand" like in an economy
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- Incentive to Buy: $buy = w_{u,b} \cdot used w_{f,b} \cdot free + \gamma$

$$buy = buy - a_b \cdot temp$$

Thermal penalties:

$$sell = sell - a_s \cdot temp$$

temp is temperature above threshold T_{θ}

- Buy and sell incentives express an agent's "desire" to acquire/give up power units => based on "supply/demand" like in an economy
- Incentive to Sell: $sell = w_{u,s} \cdot used + w_{f,s} \cdot free$
- Inc Agent of tile n sells to neighbor i if:

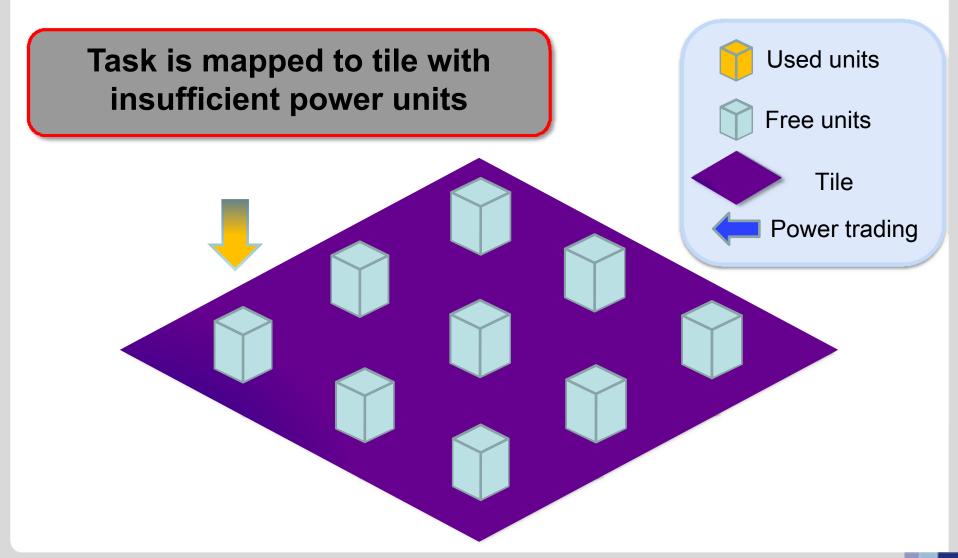
$$(sell_n - buy_n) - (sell_i - buy_i) > \varepsilon$$

The

$$seii = seii - a_s \cdot iemp$$

Sell incentive must also consider running tasks:

$$sell = sell - \sum_{task_i} p_i$$



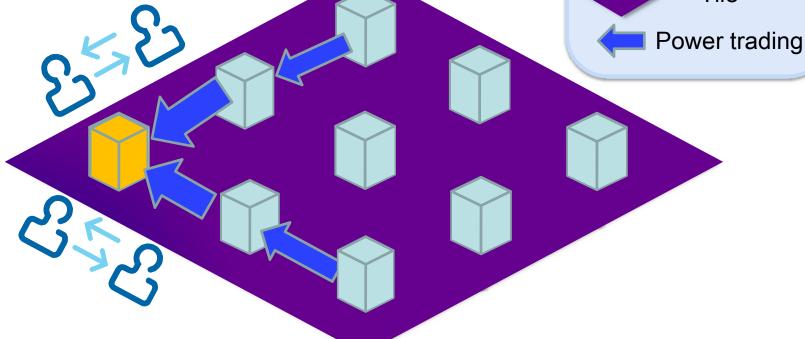
Agent trades power units with neighbors using cost function

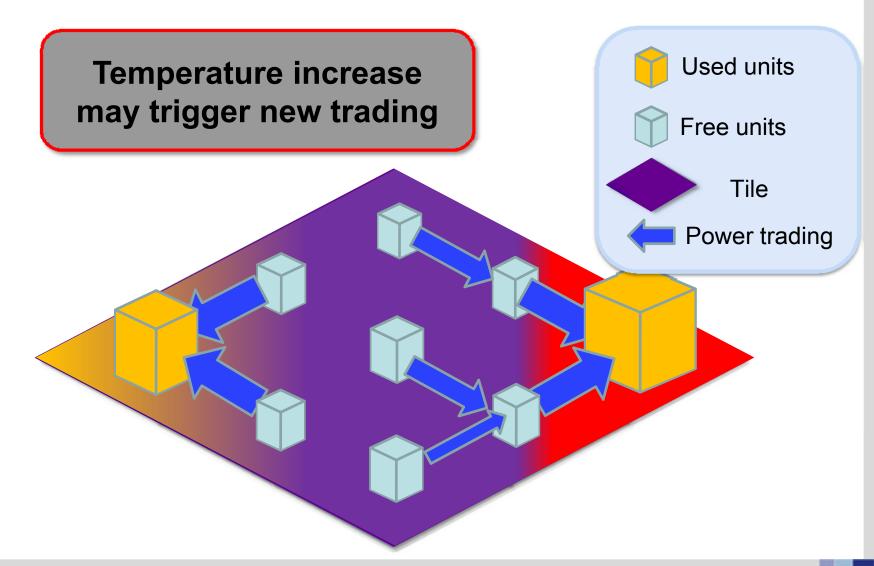
 $(sell_n - buy_n) - (sell_i - buy_i) > \varepsilon$



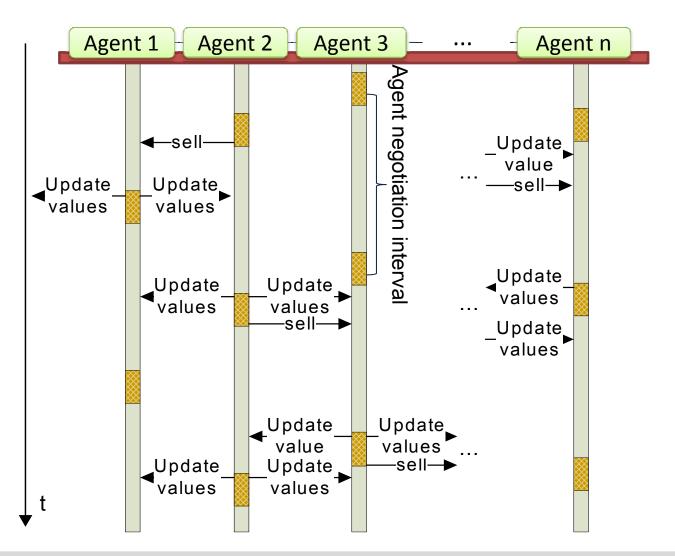




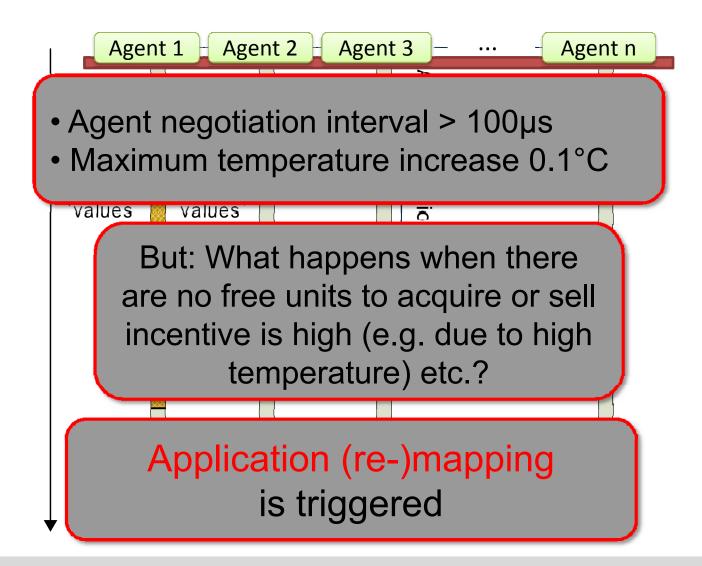




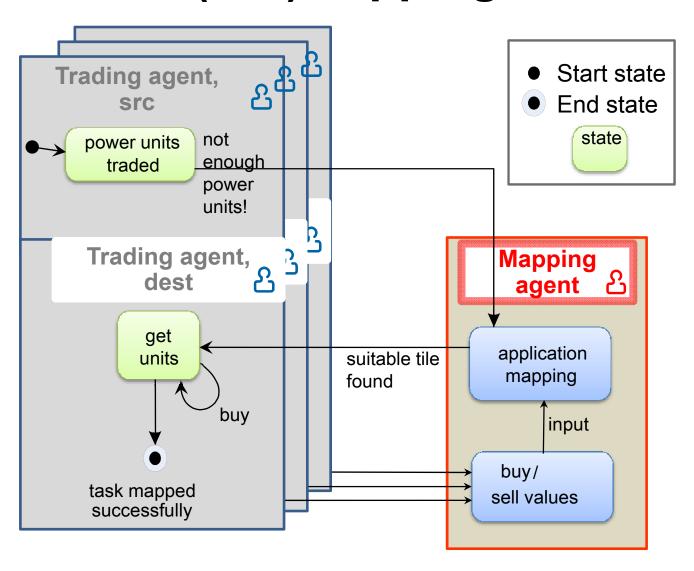
Power Unit Propagation



Power Unit Propagation



Task (Re-)Mapping



Task (Re-)Mapping

Triggered when tile does not have enough power units to run task

Start state

End state

Mapping agents realized separately from trading agents

state

Buy and sell values input to mapping agents

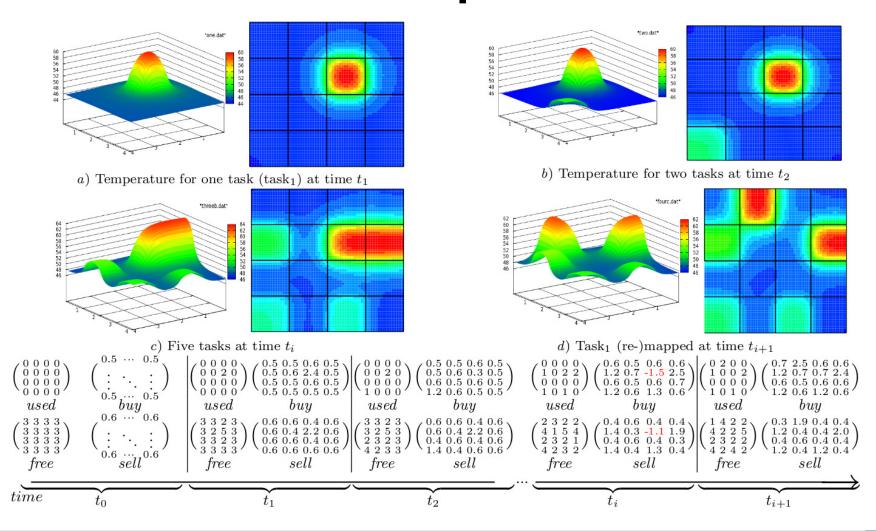
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Power trading agent of destination tile may require additional units

ut

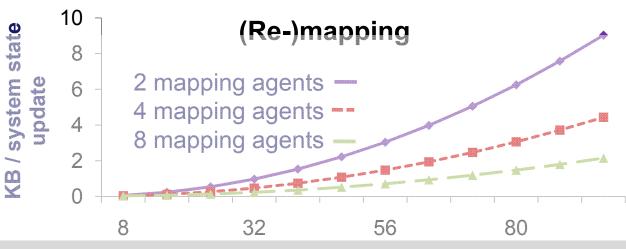
Task mapped to tile where $(sell_n - buy_n) - (sell_i - buy_i)$ is maximal as long as buy value is not negative.

Agent-Based Power Trading Example

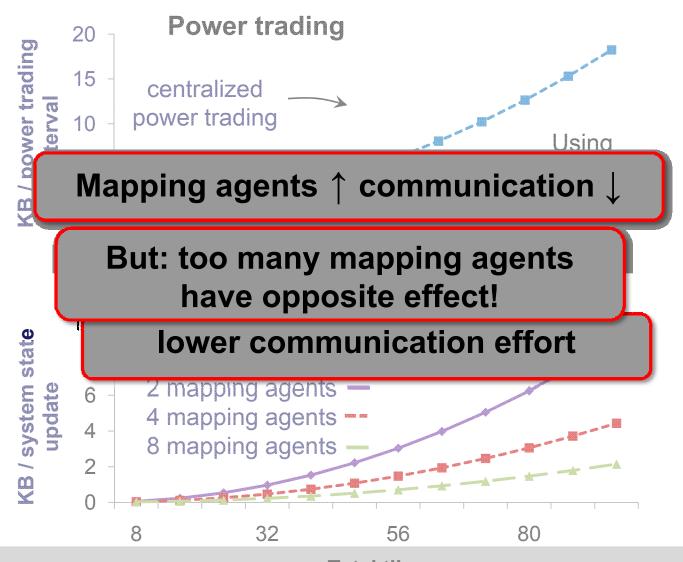


Scalability of Agent Communication

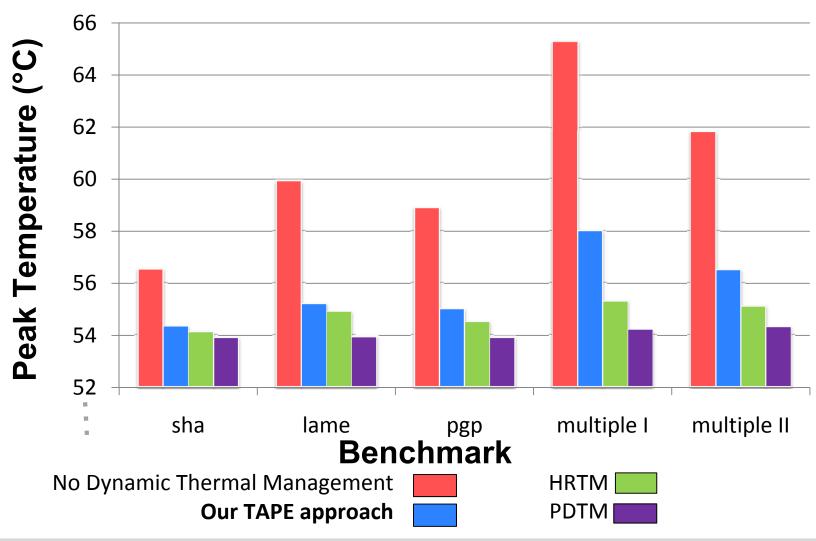




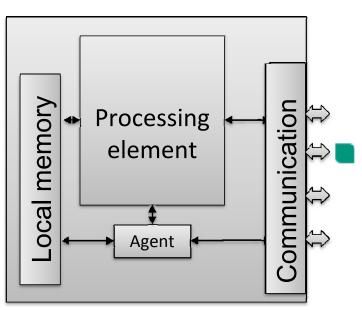
Scalability of Agent Communication



Results: Peak Temperature



Agent Implementations



Implemented in Software

- Compete with tasks for computation
- Are not always possible (e.g. in dedicated hardware)
- Implemented in Hardware
 - Can be realized on any tile
 - Does not take processing time away from tasks
 - Require additional area (143 slices in Xilinx Virtex-4 FPGA)

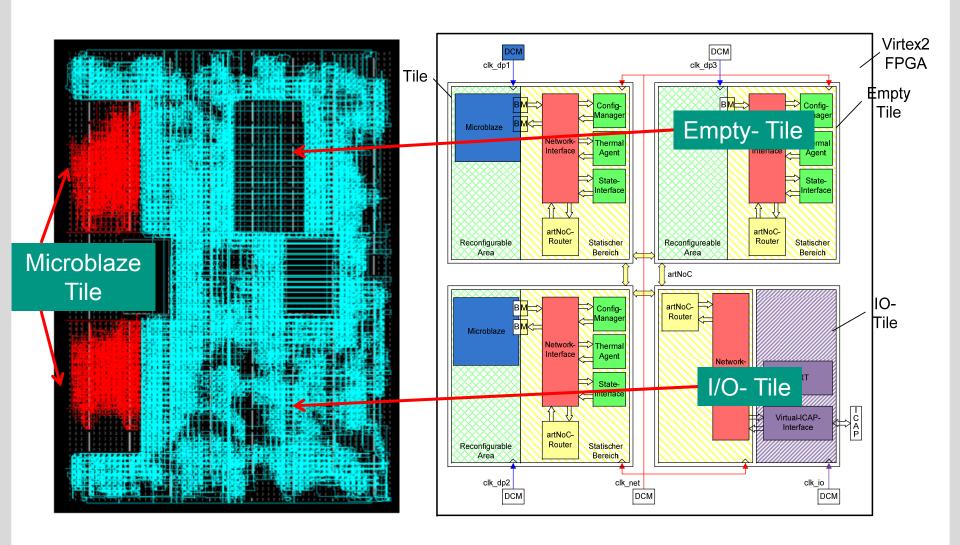
slices	LUTs	Flip-flops	Mult	Max Freq
143	276	84	2	148.9MHz

Hardware Demonstrator

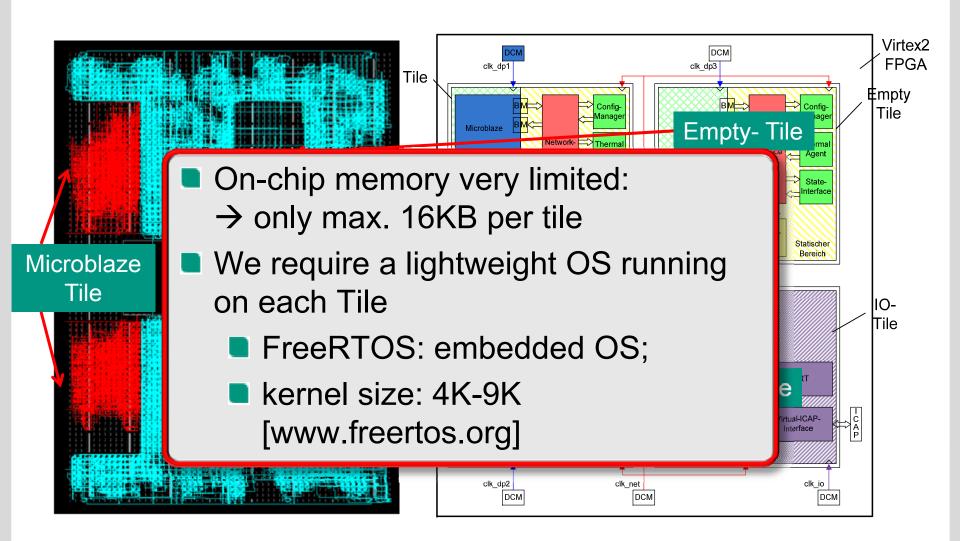
- Hardware prototype in running on a Xilinx Spartan3e FPGA with 4 Picoblaze tiles
- Thermal sensors realized through ring oscillators



System Setup

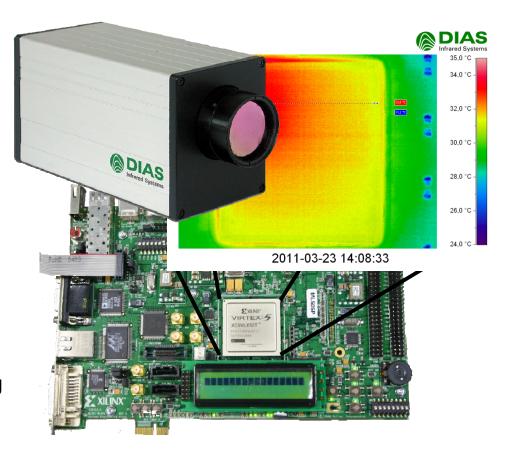


System Setup



Thermal Camera for accurate thermal Evaluation

- DIAS Pyroview IR Camera
 - Spatial resolution macro lens: around 50µm
 - Limited by camera IR spectral range of 8μm- 14μm
 - Temperature range configurable -20 °C to 120 °C or 0°C to 500°C
 - Sampling rate of 50Hz
 - Camera transmits 50 frames per second over ethernet in real time
 - 384x288 pixels
 - Comprehensive SDK for accessing camera functionality



System Setup







Summary

- Reliability is a problem when migrating to upcoming technology nodes
- MTTF of certain effects are related to temperature
- Dynamic Thermal Management techniques are necessary
- Important features:
 - Scalability -> for many core systems with 100s of cores
 - Single point of failure for DTM should be avoided
- Principles of self-organization may be a solution



Infrared Measurements and Emissivity

- Emissivity can be a problem for infrared measurements
 - Ideal "black body" has emissivity of 1
 - Polished metal can be as low as 0.01
 - Emissivty of Silica: 0.9 relatively high, but not optimal
- Low emissivity results in high reflection of surrounding temperatures

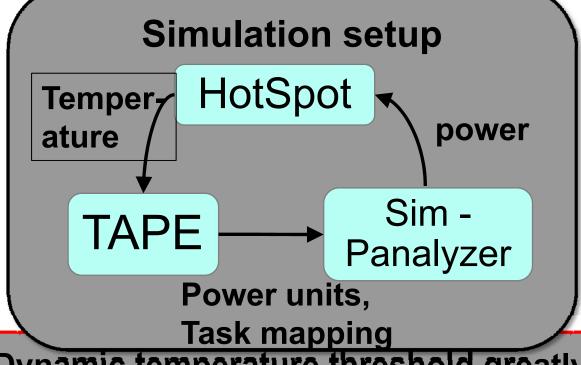
Masking tape
(emissivity 0.95)
covering half of chip shows actual temperature

Metal packaging measurements very inaccurate

Paint of logo has high emissivity (around 0.92)

[Emissivity table of various materials: www.omega.com/temperature/z/pdf/z088-089.pdf]

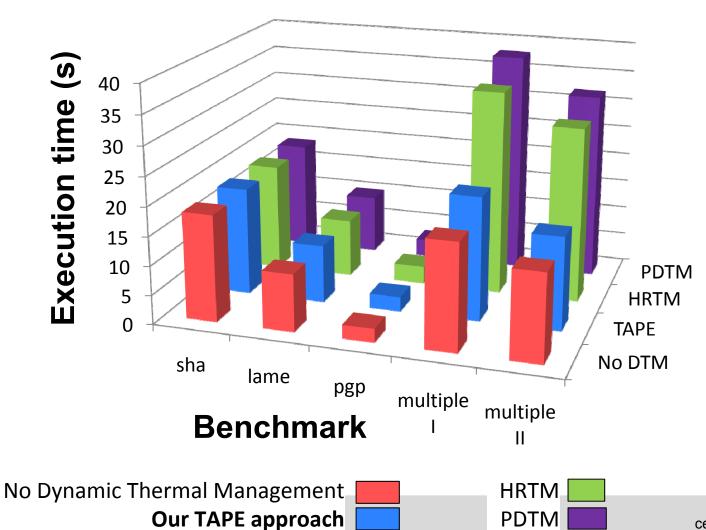
Results: Execution Time

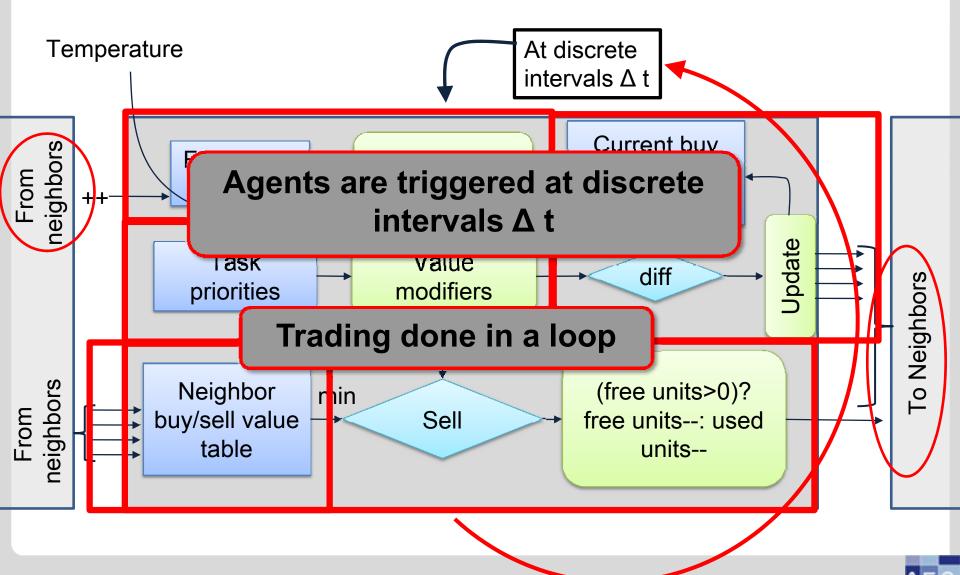


Dynamic temperature threshold greatly reduces execution time (44%) due to less frequent task migrations

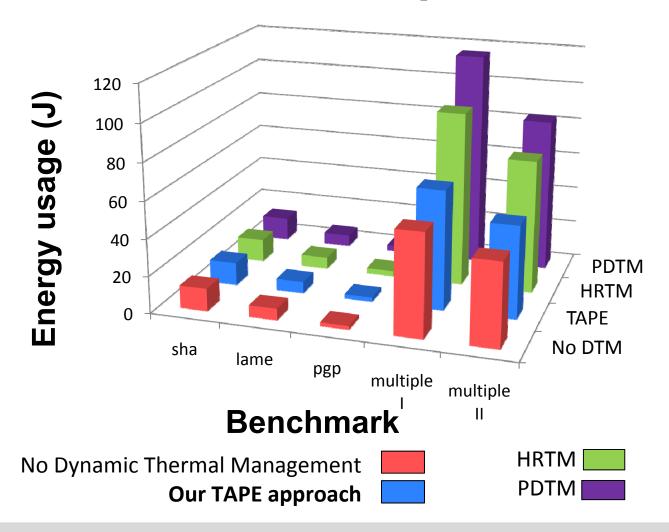
Task migration penalty is 100K cycles (saving, transferring, loading task context)

Results: Execution Time

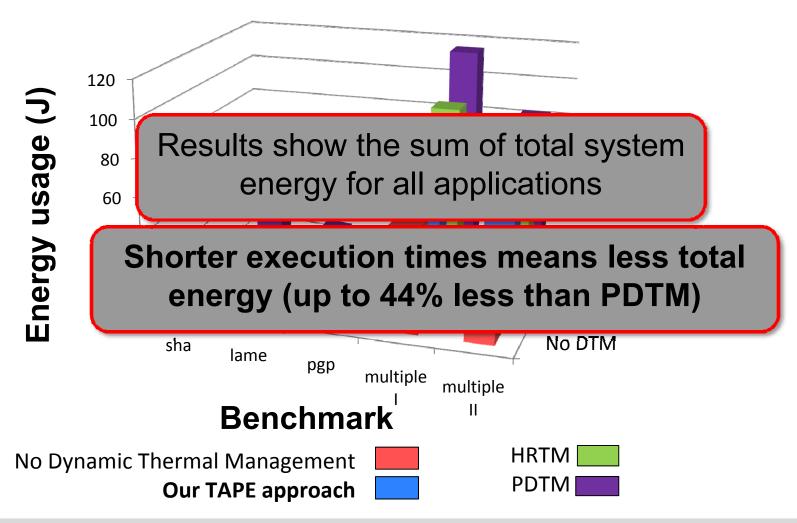




Results: Total Energy Consumption

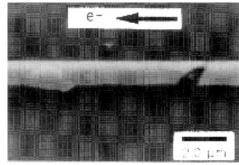


Results: Total Energy Consumption

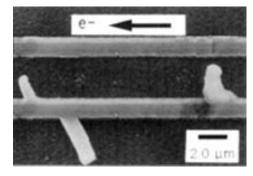


Process variations and electromigration can result in hillocks and holes

- Lead to open failures or short cicuit failures respectively
- Failures may be temperature dependent due to material expansion
 - Holes may function normally at high temperatures but fail at low temperatures
 - Hillocks may function normally at low temperatures but short circuit at high temperatures



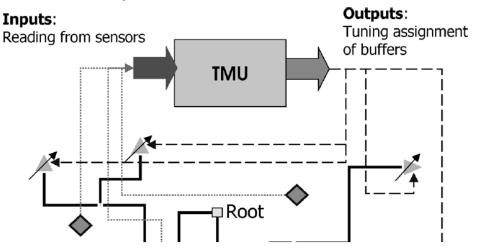
Hole/crack



Hillock

- Transient errors may result due to timing errors
 - Approx. 5% decrease in delay every 10°C temperature increase [Xie 2006]
 - Timing errors result from spatial temperature variations
 - → localized hotspots need to be avoided
 - Clock trees are particularly vulnerable
 - Span across multiple thermal areas
 - Additional buffers can be inserted to cope with thermal clock skew

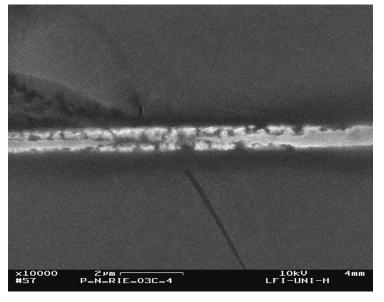
Clock skew compensation using a thermal management unit to control tunable delay buffers inserted into clock tree



- Electromigration: aging effect due to transport of mass in metal interconnects
- directly linked to temperature
 - Basic Mean time to failure modeled by Black's Equation:

$$MTTF = Aj^{-n}e^{\left(\frac{Q}{kT}\right)}$$

MTTF decreases exponentially with temperature



[wikipedia]

→ Goal: reduce peak temperatures

Thermal issues in 3D

- Power density increases with technology scaling
 - On an average from 2W/mm² in 65nm technology to 7.2 W/mm² for 45nm [Vijaykrishnan et al. ISQED'06]
- Higher power density and temperature variation cause transient and permanent failures
 - Due to technology scaling, a drop of 66% in feature size increases the temperature from 342°K to 356°K and reduces the MTTF by 76% [Srinivasan et al. Micro'05]
- Leakage power increases with temperature
 - A change in temperature from 40°C to 120°C increases the leakage power 4 times [Li et al. NOCS'08]

Categorization of technology induced dependability effects

- I. Process and design time effects
 - Yield and process variability
 - Complexity: > 10^11 (100 billion) within a decade
- II. Operation and run-time effects
 - Aging effects (irreversible)
 - Thermal effects (may speed up some ageing effects)
 - Aggressive power management may be counter-productive since thermal cycling is increased -> tradeoff
 - Soft errors
 - > 8% increase per technology node
 - Errors are random and transient and limit exploitation of techniques like voltage scaling

Counter Measures (cont'd)

"Emerging devices are expected to be more defective, less reliable and less controlled in both their position and physical properties."

"It is therefore important to go beyond simply developing faulttolerant systems that monitor the device at run-time and react to error detection."

"It will be necessary to consider error as a specific design constraint and to develop methodologies for error resiliency, accepting that error is inevitable and trading off error rate against performance (e.g. speed, power consumption) in an applicationdependent manner."

Source ENIAC Strategic Research Agenda, European Technology Platform Nanaoelectronics ,2nd Ed., Nov. 2007.

Counter Measures (cont'd)

Some further citations:

- " ... build dependable systems with non-dependable components" (Shekhar Borkar, Intel, at IEEE/ACM DATE'07 Conference, Nice, 2007.
- Leon Stok, IBM: "... most variability had been hidden from the designers ... This practice no longer holds for current [and future (Anm.)] technology nodes" (see p. 344 [D&T-JA08]).
- Jan Rabaey, UC Berkeley and Sharad Malik, Princeton: "Existing solutions are unlikely to scale, and we will need radically new solutions …" (see p. 299 [D&T-JA08]).
- [ITRS] on overall design technology challenges: "Design Productivity", "Power Consumption", "Reliability", "Interference and Manufacturability"

$$MTTF = A\omega j^{-n} e^{(\frac{Q}{kT})}$$

Transient errors

Narayanan, V. and Xie, Y. Reliability Concerns in Embedded System Designs. Computer 39, 1 (Jan. 2006), 118-120.